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INTERVIEWEE: James L. Jacobs
INTERVIEWER: Thomas G. Alexander
PLACE: Regional Forest Service Headquarters in Ogden, Ut.
DATE: Feb. 6, 1984 and Feb. 15, 1984
SUBJECT: Forest Service Career
TRANSCRIBER: BYU History Dept. 1985

HISTORY OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTERVIEWEE AGREEMENT

The interviewee has given information to be used in connection with the history of the Intermountain Region, United States Forest Service. The purpose of this project is to gather and preserve information for historical and scholarly use.

A tape recording of the interview has been made by the interviewer. An original verbatim typescript of the tape will then be made. The tape of the interview and the original verbatim typescript will then be filed in the historical records of the Intermountain Region, currently at Ogden, Utah. These materials will be made available for purposes of research to qualified scholars and for use in courses, scholarly publications, and other related purposes.

* * * * * *

I, James L. Jacobs, have read the above
(Interviewee, please print name)

and, in view of the historical and scholarly value of this information, I knowingly and voluntarily permit the United States Forest Service and others researching the history of the Forest Service, the full use of this information. I hereby grant and assign all my rights of every kind whatever pertaining to this information, whether or not such rights are now known, recognized, or contemplated, to the Intermountain Region, United States Forest Service, Ogden, Utah.

James L Jacobs
Interviewee (signature)

FEB 15, 1984
Date

Interviewer (signature)

INTERVIEWEE: James L. Jacobs

INTERVIEWER: Thomas G. Alexander

SUBJECT: U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region

DATE: February 6, 1984 and February 15. 1984

TA: Today is February 6, 1984. This is an interview with James Jacobs at the Regional Forest Service Headquarters in Ogden.

Jim, why don't you begin by telling us how you got started with the Forest Service.

JJ: I was raised in Mt. Pleasant, Utah, where my grandfather was a farmer and stockman. He had sheep and cattle; he owned nine thousand sheep at one time. When I was five years old he took me to his three farms and tried to instruct me in what I ought to know. He had no sons; he had four daughters. I was a son of his oldest daughter. I had been given his name, he was James Larsen, I am James Larsen Jacobs, and he gave me the love and attention he could have given his son.

I got well acquainted with the farms and sheep and cattle operations. I worked with his them for many years. In the spring when I was still in junior high school I used to quit school early to go out on the west desert and help drive the sheep to Jerico West of Nephi where they were sheared. Then we would trail the

sheep over the hills to Goshen, through Utah Valley, up Spanish Fork Canyon, to old Tucker and south to Grandpa's private lambing grounds north of Scofield Reservior. For four summers I herded a band of his sheep, two summers on his private land and two on his sheep allotment on the Manti National Forest. I got well acquainted with the forest, and with several of the forest officers.

Actually, my first experience with sheep on the range was in 1917, where I worked for two weeks at the Fish Creek Sheep dipping corral at the mouth of "C" Canyon on the north end of the Manti Forest.

The way I got started in the Forest Service was that I graduated from high school in Mt. Pleasant in 1926. I went to the BYU for a couple of years with the feeling that English was easy for me. So I took a couple of years of general English subjects. At that time Ernest Winkler was in charge of the range management division here in the regional office--he was the chief of grazing. He partially was raised by my grandfather and went through the same course of training that I went through and herded sheep for my grandfather in the same places I did, on the Commissary Spring, Fish Creek area on the north end of the Manti National Forest. Ern was always very friendly to the family. When he was on his Forest Service trips he often visited my grandparents in Mt. Pleasant.

My grandfather went out of the sheep business in 1927. In 1928 he took a contract to cut saw timber on the Manti National Forest on Lake Creek right over the mountain east of Mt. Pleasant for Cliff Draper's sawmill. He asked me if I would like to work with him. He said we would work ten hours a day. he would pay me $2.50 a day. We logged and hauled timber six days a week, all summer. We came home on

Saturday night and went back to our Sheep wagon camp on up Sunday night.

During this summer, Ernest Winker visited Mt. Pleasant. My grandmother called up one Sunday and said, "Ern Winker is here and wants to talk to James." So she and he came to my home. He said, "a forestry school will start in Logan this fall and if you are interested in a career in forestry, I think it would be well for you to investigate this. If you have average intelligence, with the background that you have, you should be successful in a Forest Service career."

This appealed to me because I always loved being out. When I was sixteen years old I didn't get into town for three months and three days. I was with the sheep all summer and loved every minute of it.

So when school started at Utah State Agricultural College I went to Logan and enrolled. Lyle Watts was borrowed from the Forest Service to be in charge of the forestry school when it started. He and I hit it off very well. He spent more time I think counseling his students than he did teaching. We visited frequently. I am not really a top student but I got by. Lyle Watts was later Chief of the Forest Service in Washington. He was in Logan only one year.

Early in 1929 I was offered a summer job as a lookout on the Salmon National Forest. Before I got to that job the Forest Service decided to do away with the Antelope ranger district on Lemhi National Forest. Ranger Jess Olson owned a band of sheep he was running on his Antelope ranger district and he was told "You either got to give up your job or your sheep." So he decided he would keep the sheep and give up the job.

The Antelope District was added to the Wildhorse District. I was employed as administrative guard at Antelope, which paid $125 a month. I was supervised by Wildhorse District Ranger Oscar F. Cusick for five summers.

I went to work for the Lemhi National Forest on the first of June. 1929. We had fine bunch of people to work with. I worked on the Lemhi during the summers of 1929, 30, 31, 32, and 33. In March 1932, I graduated from the school of Forestry of Utah State Agriculture College, then I worked on the forest during the winters as well as summers. When the Forest Service didn't have money to pay me, I worked for nothing. Ranger Cusick furnished board and room for me. I helped his wife Eva do housework and tend her five small children. I helped Ranger Cusick count his permitted livestock worked over the Lemhi National Forest herbarium. Posted forest boundaries and performed many miscellaneous jobs. I donated quite a few months work when the Forest Service had no money. As soon as they got money. I was put on the payroll.

As no jobs were being filled during the depression the junior range examination was not given for a couple of years. I finally took the JRE exam in Pocatello in the fall of 1933. Things had been so tough in the national forest, all the federal agencies had to take salary reductions. At first salaries were cut eight and a third percent, then sixteen percent. At that time in Mackay, Idaho the Forest Service was virtually the only outfit that still had a payroll. Six hundred men had been employed by the Mackay mine and smelter, but they shut down in the fall of 1929 and never reopened. People were destitute; there was no relief at that time. People were living on deer from the forest and fish they got out of the Mackay

Reservoir and Lost River and a lot of them were near starvation.

We Forest Service people were very fortunate to have employment. After a couple of years we had a relief program with men working on the forest. I worked as foreman on the relief job with them for some time.

Six months after I passed the examination, I was given a temporary appointment as junior a range examiner on range survey crew on the Sawtooth National Forest which I started on in May, 1934. I worked on the grazing survey crew all summer, then worked on compilation of the grazing survey data in the supervisors office in Hailey until February of 1935.

When I completed the job, I came to the regional office and inquired about a job. I was told, "We're not going to need many grazing men. We're holding the stockmen responsible for conditions on their range. They have to manage the ranges themselves so we're not going to need many men. Maybe you could look someplace else for a job." George Stewart of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station came in then and said, "We need a man down on the desert range branch, and if you would like to work for research, we can put you on." I started working on the Desert Range in March, 1935, and stayed until April, 1963 when I was appointed ranger on the Widtsoe district of the Powell National Forest with headquarters at Panguitch, Utah.

This was a different philosophy in research than in administration, I enjoyed the research work, but I liked the action in administration better than research. I was in charge of plant development studies on the desert. We had a series of

transects on which I measured the growth of about half dozen of the desert species of forage plants each week. There was a CCC camp at Desert Range and I used CCC enrollers on many jobs including surveying work. I mapped vegetative types in 20 paddocks of 320 acres each. I heard recently that my old type map are still bein used at the Desert Range Station.

In 1933 in April when the CCC camps were approved, one of the first camps was the Wildhorse Camp on the old Lemhi Forest. Francis Woods from Ogden was an engineer--he, Marvin Jeppesen and I layed out work for the CCC camp that was located at the Wildhorse Ranger Station near the head of the Big Lost River.

Two hundred boys from Scranton, Pennsylvania came to man this camp. I was employed as one of the first CCC foremen on the job. There were 22 nationalities-mostly coalminer's sons who had never held jobs. Many had been eating from garbage cans. It was interesting to work with these kids--they were pretty tough. Incidentally, there is a CCC alumni association, which is a national organization now. I joined this some time ago, and it is interesting to associate with the old CCC foremen and enrollees.

TA: Why don't you tell us what was involved in the grazing survey that you did during 1934-35. How did you go about doing that, collecting the information and tabulating and that sort of thing?

JJ: We use a grazing survey or reconnaissance system to determine grazing capacity of each allotment. Grazing surveys were made usually by a crew of range students working under the direction of an experienced crew chief. Maps of each grazing

allotment were used to locate vegetative types such as grassland, meadow, forb, sagebrush, browse woodland or timber and the boundaries of each type were mapped.

A type sheed form was filled out for each vegetative type, on which was listed each species of plant found growing in the type. These species were listed in three columns classified as grass, forbs or browse. The surveyor walked through each type two or more times making observations of density of vegetation on the ground and the percentage each plant species made up of the total vegetative cover.

He was given a palatability list showing the percentage of each plant estimated to be eaten by livestock when the range was properly grazed.

From the above, data, a percentage figure was computed called a forage acre factor. This showed the rating of each type in percentage of theoretical forage acre, which is an acre of ground completely covered with vegetation like a bluegrass lawn, all of which could be eaten by livestock when the range was properly grazed.

After the field season the acreage of each type was measured on the map by a planimiter and the forage acres determined. A compilation sheet was used to list all types on an allotment. The grazing capacity in animal months was compplute for each allotment.

At the time we thought the range survey was very good. We thought we did a good job on the Sawtooth Forest. We covered 465,000 acres in the summer of 1934 with a crew of four technical men and a crew cheif Louie Dremolski, and a packer and cook. We thought crew members it was bad that we couldn't board ourselves because

they charged us eighty-four cents a day for our board at the government camp. We thought we could have boarded ourselves along on thirty cents a day.

We had a very good summer; Louie Dremolski was a fine crew chief. He had done this for several years. He had been well trained and we had good feelings.

I spent from October until through January working on compilation of this data in the office of the Sawtooth National Forest at Hailey.

TA: Was this same system used on all of the forests in the region?

JJ: Yes, it was.

TA: So everyone would have run into the same kinds of problems you did, that is with overgrazing in particular areas because of the use of this system?

JJ: Yes. I had some very interesting experiences in that line. When I was ranger on the Snake River district on the Caribou Forest in 1940. A training session was held on my district for a third of the supervisors in the region to review previous range surveys and conditions on the range. The Caribou was considered to be the, number one forest in grazing. We had the largest number of stock per acre, we had a lot of good high quality range. Clarence Favre man who was in charge of the 1914 grazing survey, was there with his 1914 maps and type-sheets. Dean Phinney who checked Favre's work this and brought it up to date in 1928. was also present with his data. It was evident that range conditions had deteriorated. The supervisors could see marked changes. The changes in the types that were shown on the maps from

the 1914 and the 1928 surveys were evident. We could see very well that the high quality forb forage types were getting much smaller in size, which indicated that it had been grazed heavier than the range could stand. I was privileged to join the supervisors and other officers on this training session for several days because it was held on my districtt. I was the only ranger present.

At that time I had a battle with the administration on the forest because we had a permittee that said he was not going to stock his allotment one year. They said, "Whose sheep are we going to put on that allotment in place of the regular permitted sheep?" I said, "Listen, that allotment needs rest, we are not going to put anybody on that allotment." They replied, "Well look, the grazing survey figures show that we can stock that range, these experts did the job out there surveying the forage production so we know we can do it so we can fill that up." I said, "We're not going to fill that up, we can't do it because that range is not in good shape, it needs a rest, it needs to be taken care of and we need a reduction." The allotment was allowed to rest for one year--I won my case.

This is jumping ahead in my sequence. I was on this district, on the north end of the Caribou Forest, the Snake River Ranger District, from 1937 until 1942. Then in May of 1943 I transferred to the Payette National Forest. But during that period I rewrote the grazing plans for each of the Snake River district allotments. We had very good records of the use on each allotment; when the sheep came on, how many were grazed when they left the forest, so we knew how many sheep-days or cattle-days had been used on each allotment.

We then compared the actual use amount with the grazing survey figures and we

could see that the grazing data were out of line because use was very much less in almost every case than the capacity as shown by the grazing survey. Merle Varner was a wonderful supervisor, he was progressive and far thinking and so enthusiastic to work with. We devised a method of going out and contacting these sheepmen. We had a big advantage in this area because of the eastern Idaho lease land. This was a lot of this grazing land adjacent to the forest, where most of these sheep went after they left the forest. We knew that they could leave early without hurting anything and usually they wanted to keep their sheep gaining weight. A lot of lambs had been sold and shipped while the sheep were on the forest. But there was no use pounding their allotments into dust because they had this eastern Idaho lease they could go out on, and they usually left the forest well before the end of the grazing season.

I figured anywhere from three to five years average use of each of these allotments from the actual use records of each band of sheep. I would go and sit down with the permitee and say, "Look, you only used forty percent of your grazing permitted time up there this year." (This was a little low, most of them were a little higher than that) "Why pay for all this? We want to reduce this season this much, we want to reduce the numbers this much." We had people like the Nielsen brothers, who cancelled the permit for one band of sheep. e reduced almost all of the grazing seasons. Some of the sheep grazing season, started the middle of June and others the first of July. Most of the permittees were agreeable to reducing their stocking as they could see the reason for it. They said, "This is as much as we want to use it, the way we've been using it." So we got their agreement to reducing the stocking. We had 59 bands of sheep and 1700 cattle permitted on the Snake River district.

Some of the other forests were a little concerned about this because they thought we were a little too aggresive in what we were doing.

TA: What year was this, that you were trying to reduce those?

JJ: This was from 1938-41. In my years on there we reduced 34 percent of the grazing obligation without an appeal, without a protest from any of the stockmen. Some of them were a little disgruntled about it, saying, "Oh. you shouldn't cut us that much." But we had very good feelings with most of the stockmen.

This was my second ranger district, I had the ranger district on the Powell Forest at Widtsoe before that. I had been raised in the sheep business and I understood the sheep philosophy, but I didn't know anything about Basque people. We had a lot of Basques sheep herders and owners, many wth difficult names. I enjoyed getting acquainted with them. Each Basque that I met, I would have write his name in my little shirt pocket notebook, then I would write the name phonetically, so I could prounouce it correctly. On each of the grazing plans I would write their names. When I made my range inspection trips. I would come into camp and call each man by his full name, which was very flattering to them. I did it because of their interest. But after doing this for a while I could see that knowing names really had value, so I started actively making a collection of names. I found that this has been an interesting hobby. In fact, this last week I talked to a group of people, I have three talks to give on my names collection this month.

I went on the pack trips to inspect these allotments. Our standard was that the short season allotments had to be inspected twice a season and the long season

allotments three times each season. Sometimes I could inspect part of as many as four allotments a day, I would go through parts of them. I planned to eat with the sheep herders at their camps. I would take, cans of pineapple, my wife would bake cookies, and I would give the herders cookies and pineapple, when I ate lamb and sourdough bread.

I enjoyed my work on the Caribou Forest, even though money was scarce. At that time we had no help on the district to amount to anything. But I though my salary of $2,200 per year was very good. I had two crews, one little campground development crew part of the time while we were building campgrounds, and a road crew that maintained roads over the entire forest was on my district part of the time. For our fire control work we had per diem guards. These were primarily ranchers that were located around the ranger district who would take action to control fires on the forest. We would give them fire training each spring and furnish them fire tools. They would be responsible for their sector of the forest so if a fire started they would go and put it out. They were paid only for time spent in training and controlling fires. We didn't have much fire. It wasn't a great problem. We had a lot of cooperation from these people.

We had good social relations with peopple in Swan Valley and Idaho Falls, who were very friendly and hospitable. The Swan Valley Ladies Club entertained my wife and she taught all the ladies to knit and we got along very well. We spent the winters in Idaho Falls and summers were at Snake River the ranger station in Conant Valley.

When campground garbage cans needed emptying, my wife would drive the pick-up

and I would empty the cans. We never got any help, we did all the cleanup on the campground ourselves.

TA: This was when you were on the Lemhi?

JJ: No, this was the Caribou Forest. I haven't really explained my Lemhi story yet.

TA: Were you involved at all with the same kind of thing down on the Powell Forest as you were up on the Caribou and Lemhi and Payette, that is, managing grazing? Was that what you mostly did down there?

JJ: Primarily. Well actually, grazing was considered the number one use of the forests. When my grandfather ran sheep on the Manti Forest we had a requirment which is shown in Jay Haymond's book on History of the Manti Forest and that because of the sheep scab, the U.S. Department of Agriculture required that all of the sheep that grazed on the national forest had to be dipped for control of scabmite or scabies. My grandad owned the Fish Creek dipping corral at the mouth of "C" Canyon on the Manti sheep and I assisted in the dipping of many herds of sheep in 1917 when I was nine years old.

My job was to dunk the sheep as they swam through the vat filled with a solution of Kresco. Some of the sheep wouldn't get clear under when they fell into the dip-filled vat, but I had a tool with a fork on it that we would stick over the back of their neck and dunk their heads under the dip so they all got fully covered.

I got my first lesson in range management when I was herding sheep on the Manti Forest in 1926. There because there had been a fire on my range allotment that some cattlemen had started the previous fall when they were driving cattle across the forest. The grazing plan that the Forest Service sent us, Ranger Seth Ollerton prepared this, showed in yellow the area that was not to be grazed. He didn't want this burned area to be grazed, but it grew up with beautiful feed. There was one part of that burned ridge that he had not colored yellow. When the Forest Supervisor William Humphrey and ranger Seth Ollerton found my sheep grazing in the burned area where they shouldn't be. They were very much concerned. They told me, "You shouldn't graze your sheep there." I said, "Why not--my map said I can graze there." Seth said, "No, no, your map said to stay away from there." The sheep were grazing where the map indicated was open for grazing. So we went to camp, I pulled out the map, and showed them. The burn had been mapped incorrectly. Then Bill Humphrey, gave me my first lesson in plant succession. He explained, the theory that you're not supposed to graze burned area until the plants that grow on the burn have established themselves so they have some vigor to withstand grazing. You shouldn't graze burned area the first year after burning as that will give an opportunity for the unpalatable plants to take over because you are grazing off the palatable plants before they have grown vigorous enough to stand grazing so they are weakened. I was deeply impressed with the lesson and considered it to be highly important.

I cooked a good dinner of sourdough bread and mutton for the visitors, like we always did for visiting forest officers, and they left with good feelings.

TA: Now this ould have been during the first World War, while you were working for your grandpa?

JJ: No. I hered a band of sheep in 1923 and 1924 on grandpa's private land which joined the forest. This lesson visit was in 1925 or 1926, the years I herded the sheep on the national forest.

I never had a comptender while I was herding sheep, I moved my own camp and packed my own supplies. I was told that I was herding the largest herd of sheep on the Manti Forest, but I packed all the salt for the sheep, groceries and other supplies about eleven miles from Scofield.

I got a citation of meerit from Ranger Ollerton for keeping my sheep off of the top of Fish Creek Ridge until after August 10. He wanted the lower slopes grazed first and later the top of the ridge where they like to be best.

Before I started herding on the forest the sheep had been handled differently. The system useed before that time was too have a few very prominent bed grounds where sheep were bedded for weeks at a time and trailed out each day to forage areas. The bedgrounds had deep manure on them like corrals. There was alot of trailing damage to the range as sheep trailed quite long distances. And if a ewe could not find her lamb, she trailed back to the bedground to look for it.

The bedding out system was started at the time I was herding on the forest. Under this system the sheep were bedded wherever night overtook them, so there was no trailing back to an overused bedground. They were never bedded more than three

nights in one place. I had to estimate how much country would be grazed each day, the plan the place where the sheep were to be bedded.

Another change should be mentioned. Up to this time our sheep had always been salted with big chunks of red rock salt from the mine at Redmond, Utah. This was very hard and the salt-hungry ewes often tried to chew off the salt instead of licking it. This way they often broke off some of their teeth, which made grazing difficult. It was decided that fine salt - ice cream salt - was best for the sheep, so I used this at least every third day to keep the sheep from getting salt hungry. When they graze succulent forage they require large amounts of salt in their diet.

In order to feed the fine salt without waste I had to made salt troughs at each new bedground from aspen trees. I would cut about three trees at each place, hew off the top of the aspen log on the ground, and cut V-notch troughs along the trunk of the trees. Salt was then poured in these troughs for the sheep to eat. They could satisfy their salt-hunger rapidly with fine salt.

So we started the bedding out system even though it required considerable work in making salt troughs at each new bedground. It is amazing to see the improvement in condition of the range that has resulted. The old bedgrounds which were once so prominent have all disappeared and the trailing back and forth of the sheep has been eliminated. This was a change in management that is very beneficial to the range and the sheep.

TA: Why don't we move into the II World War period, Jim.

JJ: I think the beginning of the change away from the old range survey or range reconnaissance system was because of our action on the Caribou Forest Supervisor. Merle Varner was the first one I knew that questioned the effectiveness of grazing surveys. He could see a lot of the areas that were overused where grazing survey figures showed there was Ample forage. The old range survey wasn't working out.

The R.O. got very concerned and the regional forester and a group of the officials from Ogden came up to a meeting in Pocatello to review this situation with the rangers of the Caribou. They said, "Now how come, when you've got this grazing survey, we went out and found this feed is there by scientific methods but the sheep ran out of forage?" He said, "It always understood that these grazing survey figures could be adjusted if you could see that it was clearly out of line. Whoever is in charge should adjust the grazing capacity. Sufficient Forage wasn't there. If some big thing happened that changed the grazing capacity you're supposed to do that." Varner said, "Well, if that is the case, what good is the data if you have to adjust it according to what you know about it? We know that these stockman are not fools, they know what the score is and they've got to have their stock handled properly with ample forage. The stock have got to be fed well, so what kind of a system should we use--should we still use this old grazing survey? The ones that we'd seen in 1914 and 1928 that have been corrected are virtually.

One of the experts said, "What has caused all of this? What is the score?" So old Jesse Draney, ranger on the Freedom district, pulled out one of his hand bills that he'd saved from World War I and he said, "Here's what really started a lot of overgrazing." The Forest Service was advertising for more livestock to graze. On the Caribou Forest they wanted 10,000 more sheep and two thousand more cattle to

graze, to produce meat for the war effort during World War I. There was a feeling that the grazing survey system was good in theory for short periods, but we needed something better. That was when the range analysis idea developed. Mont Lewis was really behind the idea and several other people too, but he is the one that really developed it. I attended the first field training in the range analysis system with Ed Cliff and other people when I was on the Fishlake Forest was decided to adopt the range analysis system to replace the old range survey system that hadn't been working effectively.

TA: Can you tell me about when this new range analysis system was adopted?

JJ: It was adopted about 1947.

TA: So just after the II World War, shortly after?

JJ: Yes.

TA: Can you tell me something about the character of the employees that were in the forest positions as rangers and in other positions? Where were they generally from, what was their background at the time you began working for the forest service in the late '20s and early '30s?

JJ: There were virtually no technically trained rangers at the time I started working. There were some, but they were mostly men that had been raised in various places in the west. Many were old stockmen, they were people that had been raised on the ground, that knew livestock and knew how to run the job. I think Que David

Hansen of Richfield was the last man that was appointed from the old now technical ranger examination. To pass the old ranger examination, a man had to be able to read and write, figure, run a compass line an accident, shoe ride, and pack a horse and do the various practical things in the field. They were get some very good well trained timber foresters in the R.O. that were trained in Eastern Schools. The german forestry influence was strong there and they turned out some good foresters. We had a few good trained men, but we had a forest supervisor that did not like educated men. I'll give you an example of this.

Ernest Renner was supervisor of the Lemhi Forest at Mackay, Idaho. Ernest had had experience with some of these eastern trained foresters. He had one fellow who was a graduate of a eastern forestry school that looked down on anyone that didn't have a degree in forestry. After he had been on the forest a few months he asked for the assistant supervisor job because he figured that the other rangers were not forestry educated. So the supervisor thought all schooled foresters thought they were better than those that had not been to school.

The supervisor had a very bad taste in his mouth about Marvin Jappesen and James Jacobs who had college degrees. He hired us to build a telephone line into Pahsimeroi over the hill from Dickey, Idaho to the Pahsimeroi ranger station in the fall of 1932. This was over Double Springs Pass, a 26 mile phone line. Marvin Jeppesen was a graduate of the University Idaho and I was a graduate of Utah State. Renner thought anybody that had been to school needed to do some hard work. We worked along the line without having any transportation. We would walk as far as seven miles carrying all of our tools and equipment. We even had to pay a kid to move our camp when it needed moving as the Forest Officers did not service our camp.

It was tough job we started the first October and we ended up just before Thanksgiving. We set some poles, but mostly we did the line work we had to carry 176 pound rolls of number nine wire on reels to string it out along the line. We lived in a 10'x12' tent, cooked over a campfire outside and our fuel was awfully scarce. On Sunday we would go a mile or a mile and a half to a patch of mountain mahogany and get a big drag of mahogany wood to last us through the week. The ranger who was battling with the supervisor as he did not want the phone line built. came up to our camp and loaded all of our wood in his pickup and took it to the ranger station leaving us without fuel.

When we finished building the line Mr. Renner said, "Boys, I've got to apologize to you. I thought you ought to be tough and I made it just as tough as I could for you, but you came through in fine shape. I ought to give you a bonus for the fine way you did that job.

TA: Then you were among the first group that went to work for the Forest Service that were really trained in Forestry?

JJ: When I started working on the Lemhi in 1929 there were no college graduates on the forest. But there were forestry graduates from Montana and other schools in the regional office and on some foressts. But most of the rangers we had were old practical men that had been out all of their lives and had been appointed under the old practical ranger examination. Some men passed this exam who had not passed the eighth grade in school.

TA: Most of them came from a sheep ranching background?

JJ: Yes, or were the farm boys or woods workers. We had to take the technical Civil Service Examination, to get an appointment, but the fellows that had been appointed up to the time we took it were appointed under the old rangers examination.

TA: Were most of the people that came in at the time you did who were educated who had forestry training, were they people from this region?

JJ: Most of them. We had some fellows like Arnold "Barney" Standing. Barney didn't have a degree when he was an assistant in range management in the Regional Office. He went back to school when I did at Utah State University to get his degree. He was a very fine forest officer. A few of these older men that were working like Ernest Winkler and Ernest Renner had college degrees or college training. However, the Forest Service did give inservice training that was very good. We had a series of training courses that were given in the winter. I have a list of 41 courses that I've taken over the years. They were an outgrowth of the ones that had been given to the old rangers. They had very good practical courses in many phases of the work that they would give these men during the winter when they didn't have much field work to do.

After the unschooled forest officers had completed so many of the in service training courses they were given a certificate as a "Practicing Forester." Some of them had the certificates framed and posted on their office walls. They took great

pride in qualifying for the practicing forester title.

TA: By what time in your career were most of those who were being employed graduates of forestry school?

JJ: I received my first appointment in 1934, although I had worked in temporary jobs before that time. There were several years when they didn't give the examination because things were so tough that they didn't have money to employ new people. When President Roosevelt was elected in 1932. We got some money to work with som many jobs opened up, so civil service exams were given in 1933. There were not enough men eligible for the new jobs so the passing grade was lowered three times to make more men eligible. From 1930 on, all of the appointments were made from the junior ranger or junior forester examination.

TA: So most of them would have been graduates of the forestry.

JJ: That was the requirement that they be graduates. Although, even later when Floyd Noel was appointed, some good men did not have their degrees, but they had a special type of appointment that was given to some of those that showed real promise and had shown they'd make good forest officers. But basically, appointments were given only to those passing one of the technical examinations. I took the Junior Range Examiner exam in the fall of 1933. There were about 500 took it in the country and Irvin Rasmussen from here and I got the same rating. We were rating seventh and eighth in the nation in the examination, which was a seven hour exam at that time. I took it in Pocatello. We wrote like crazy three and a half hours in the morning and three and a half hours in the afternoon. I reviewed all of my

forestry courses and all the information that I thought would apply before the exam to get ready it.

When we were attending forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College. Considerable attention was given to preparation for taking Junior forester or Junior range examiner Civil Service examinations. In all possible previous exams those who took them were asked to concentrate on the questions asked and write them down as soon as the exam was over. Lists of the questions that had been asked were available for students to study in preparation for taking their own exams. I assume these questions were passed from school to school for the benefit of all students.

In my last years in the regional office I was designated as a Civil Service exam rating officer. My training was given to me in Denver in the R.O. there. No formal exams were given then comparable to the exam I took. Applicants were rated on their scholastic records and experience.

TA: Most of those who were employed under the situation that you were employed wouldn't have been people who graduated from Utah State. most of them would have come from Yale and Wisconsin and some of the other schools, out of this region. Is that correct?

JJ: I don't have a wide enough knowledge of where they all came from then, but from the time they started forestry school in Logan, I think that basically all of the permanent appointments were made from technically trained men who had taken the examination. Many of them came from the East, although we had schools in Idaho, and Utah State and Montana that qualified a lot of them, so we did have a lot of fellows

from the West. In the timber field it was a little different. We had quite a few timber men that were easterners, but grazing was the primary resource to be considered for jobs in this region at that time. It has changed now to where range management is a minor item compared to what it was then.

TA: Now you indicated that you transferred to the Payette shortly after this, were you involved in timber management there?

JJ: Yes, I thought I had the world by the tail over at the Snake River Station. I had been there from '37 to '42, I got a little note in the fall of '42 from the forest supervisor saying, "I heard that there is a movement to move you to new location to give you some broader experience."

So they offered me another job as ranger in Malad, Idaho. I said, "I wouldn't move off of this district. I'm going to stay here as long as I can hack it because this is my home. The next thing I heard, was a note from the ranger Vaughn Tippetts at Ephraim saying, "I guess you know I'm taking over the Snake River Ranger District. Have you got electricity out at the station?" We hadn't had electricity when I came, but we got it while I was there. I hit the ceiling as I had not been ttoold I was being moved. I drove down to the regional office and went before the acting Regional Forester. He tried to placate me, and I said, "I'm going to stay right here at Snake River. I like it up here." He said, "You're going to move to the Payette Forest and be ranger at Cascade."

So I reluctantly moved from the Snake River ranger station on the Caribou to the Crawford ranger station on the Payette, four miles east of Cascade. Payette

Forest Supervisor Tomas H. Van Meter sent a CCC truck to haul my household goods with a trailer for my horse. We had enough furniture to fill two trucks, so we took another truck from the Caribou to haul it all 440 miles to my new station. My belongings were weighed and found to be over the limit, so I charged $114.00 extra, which was more than two-thirds of a month's salary for excess weight. Moving my belongings in open trucks by untrained drivers severely damaged much of my furniture.

The Payette used to have the headquarters in the old assay office in Boise in the winter and move up to Cascade in the summer, so they actually moved the forest headquarters twice each year. After the forests were merged they put me in charge of grazing on the new Boise super forest that had ten ranger districts. A lot of the stockmen were very favorable to Louie Dremolski who just been named supervisor of the Teton National Forest. He was all ready to move to Jackson but some grazing permittees made such a fuss that Chester Olson came from the Regional Office to settle the argument. He agreed to leave Louie Dremolski in charge of grazing in the job I had been working in for a month. They moved me into the timber staff job on the Boise National Forest. I had thirty-four sawmills on and around the Boise Forest. With five junior foresters under my supervision, I had had only a little timber experience, but I had some good men to assist me who knew the job well. I stayed in timber in 1944, then in the winter of '44 and '45 Charles DeMoisey came from the Regional Office to the rangers meeting at Boise. He said, "What in the world are they doing with a grazing man in charge of timber? We'll take care of that." About three weeks later I got transferred to the Fishlake Forest as assistant forest supervisor so they put a timber forester into the timber job on the Boise. We didn't have the controversy in timber work that we did in grazing.

TA: During the period you were up there that was about the time that the forest service was pushing the cooperative sustained yield agreements. Were you involved in any of those on the Boise while you were involved in timber?

JJ: No, our problem was the war effort. We had pressure from the War Production Board that said, "We're going to send sawmills on the forest to cut all of the timber we need for the war effort." We said, "We're going to manage this on a sustained yield basis and you're not going to do that." They said, "You don't know how bad we need timber." There was a sawmill man named Jensen to which the War Production Board loaned $20,000. He spent about $10,000 before we ever heard about it. They told him he could move his sawmill into the Warm Lake are and cut all the timber there without consulting the Forest Service. We had a rough time settling this. Warm Lake was an important recreation area and there was no timber in there that we wanted to sell at that time. We finally persuaded the War Production Board that the Warm Lake area should not be cut, so they found another location for Mr. Jensen's sawmill.

We did have another interesting angle. We had people that would buy a sawmill to put their sons to work so they wouldn't have to go to the war. Some of these sawmills were producing very well. Halleck and Howard sold out to Boise Payette Company that was later transferred to the Boise Cascade Company. We did have some real problems with the erosion of this South Fork of the Payette. We had a 56 million board foot timber sale up there on the Garden Valley District and they were building roads on granitic soils many roads that you could see up one ridge.

We had a lot of damage resulting from logging in this granitic soil country that was not resistant to erosion. There had a real demand for timber, but they liked the yellow pine or ponderosa but didn't care for the douglas fir. We were actually selling douglas fir on the stump for fifty cents a thousand board feet on that Hallack and Howard sale. They would cut the timber, truck it down to Banks, load it on the railroad and haul it to the Sawmill at Cascade.

TA: Why don't we shift on to your grazing experience after the second World War. You went to the Fishlake then and then to the Wasatch?

JJ: No, I went from the Fishlake to the Uinta.

TA: Why don't you tell us about your experiences there. Were you managing grazing mostly there rather than timber on those two forests?

JJ: Actually, after the timber experience on the Boise I went to the Fishlake where they were having some pretty heavy adjustments in stocking which were badly needed. We also had a badly overstocked game situation. We had deer that were just running out of our ears. We had approval for a doe hunt, but that was not popular. We had to reduce the game as well as the livestock so we had a wildlife technician on the staff making life history studies of deer. We had a couple of them, Everett Doman was doing this job and then, we put him up at Loa as the ranger. Les Robinette was them employed as Wildlife Technician.

There was a bad situation because Blaine Betenson, the forest supervisor, had a heart condition so bad during the last part of his administration that he could do

no field work. I had to do all the field work for him, he worked in the office. We had a lot of pressures with grazing. We had a need for a reduction in permittee livestock. We got a lot of cooperative reductions, but then we had some other forced reductions which developed some bad blood between the stockmen and the forest service. Blaine was a good supervisor and he knew that we had to make reductions in stocking on a good part of the forest. Right at this time they started the range analysis system we had to classify our ranges by this new system.

There is one other thing I should mention before we get away from the Caribou. They had an erosion problem area survey that was made throughout the region. While I was on the Caribou the Regional Office they sent men to give us training in classification of stages of erosion, problem area surveys is what I'm talking about. So we had to classify our forest according to the standards they had set up in erosion which was to be used in all of the uses of the forest to consider the soil.

We had a two day training school at the CCC camp at Alpine, Wyoming. We went up the Snake River above Alpine and studied the erosion situation. They Regional Office Trainers showed us how to classify the range into class one, class two, or class three erosion conditions. So all the rangers on the caribou classified their areas. We sent them in and the regional office sent back and said, "You boys are too tough up there. We just moved your classifications up one level." This was to coordinate our erosion survey with the way it was done on other forests. We concluded the Regional Office did not accept the erosion problems we found on the ground, but wanted it to appear less severe than it really was.

Merle Varner was concerned that the Regional Office changed our erosion problem area classes. We knew the situation on the ground and they said, "No, you're class two, we'll make up into class one." They moved it up one class and this was done all over the region so it took quite a long time for people to get a true understanding of what the condition was on the ground and that we needed to take better care of our resources than we were doing. On the Fishlake we had some badly eroded areas, and we needed grazing and deer adjustments.

We were making reductions on all the grazing transfers at that time as a matter of course. We'd make a twenty percent reduction on every grazing transfer where just the livestock were involved or a ten percent reduction if the land and the livestock were both transferred. This was a way of getting some reductions made, but it was kind of a bad system actually because we should have gone out, established the grazing capacity and the adjusted the use to these grazing capacities. We did quite a lot of that. We had some grazing areas that were very good down, and we had others that were pretty bad. But we were still making pretty heavy adjustments in our livestock.

TA: How did the range allotment analysis work? You've explained how the previous system worked, now how did you go about making the allotment analysis under the new system?

JJ: I have to think about that a little off-hand. We would go out and classify the range in various classes of suitability for grazing.

JJ: Photo transects were special studies of vegetation made by specialists who were

good botanists and good photographers. Dr. Walter P. Cottam made many of these transect studies on the Utah National Forest. Irwin "Hap" Johnson rechecked many of Dr. Cottam's transects and established many more of his own. Those photo transect studies were very good, I thought that was a good system to use.

TA: How did that work?

JJ: Phil Johnson can actually tell you more about that than I can. He made many trips with his father who carred on the photo transect work for any years. Dr. Cottam established those transects to start out with, being a good photographer and also a splendid botanist. He used to work out on the desert when we established the Deseret Range studies out there. He came out to Pine Valley and helped pla and inaugurate the studies at Desert Range.

The photo transects were done by going into a typical grazing area and run a transect through the middle of a type where we could have about ten plots in a row. They would map on the ground a quadrat that showed the location of each of the native plant and the amount of ground that was covered by these plants. Then they would take photos from different angles so you could see that the picture of the vegetation and then you could get the detail of the vegetation from the maps of the quadrats, the location of each plant was shown on the various plots. These transects were recharted after a five year interval to show the changes in the vegetation that had taken place. These would show if better plants were increasing or decreasing.

We had a previous study that was somewhat similar to this called plant

quadrats. Angle irons were driven into the ground on each corner of a meter square plot. Leather straps were pinned around the iron pegs with holes punched so cross straps could be pinned on, making one hundred squares of about four inches each. The vegetation was mapped on a letter-sized form, symbols were used for various species. Rod-square enclosures were fenced and established throughout the region to study the effect of total protection from grazing compared to grazed range outside the fenced enclosures (which were later termed exclosures.) Meter square quadrats were established both inside and outside the enclosures which were to be recharted at intervals to determine changes. One of my first jobs in 1929 was to make rechecks on the range quadrats on the old Lemhi National Foresst. We worked on just a small meter square transect where we would divide this square meter into a hundred squares and we would go and map the vegetation on each of those. Then we would go back after an interval and recheck those to see if the unpalatable plants had increased or decreased and the palatable plants also to see the changes that had resulted from the stocking.

TA: Now let me see if I understand this. You would mark out an area that was a meter square, a very small area and plot each of the plants in that area and then take a photograph of it, several photographs.

JJ: We had the quadrat straps, we'd put a strap around the plots. They had a hole every four inches and so we'd put the strap there and then we'd map each one of these plots so we would get a complete map of all of the species that were growing in that plot.

TA: How many of those would you do in an acre?

JJ: Not in an acre, those would be maybe half a dozen on a ranger district or so or maybe two on a grazing allotment someplace.

TA: So you'd pick out a couple places on each allotment, do one of these meter square units and find every piece of vegetation that was within that square meter.

JJ: Yes, and then that would be remapped after an interval, maybe five years to see whether the condition had gone up or down. This was similar to the type maps that were made by the grazing survey crews where you could go in and recheck like the 1914 maps that were made, when they were rechecked in 1928, the forb types had been reduced in size.

Let's talk about what I can give you, if there is any more that you want. I will just give you a resume of my work experience.

TA: The other thing we can do, of course, is to meet again. I am going to be here for two weeks, if you want to do that. I don't want to cut off this information.

JJ: I would like to talk some about my experience on the Uinta. At that time we, that's where things started getting tough, that's where all these real pressures came because they had six months cattle grazing season May 1 to October 31 along the Wasatch front. May 1 was too early to turn the cattle out. First we cut a month off the season to begin with, or maybe not quite in some places, but we made a lot of reductions on the Uinta. Some of those were under pressure. Some of them were by agreement.

But then you take a case like this Hobble Creek case, I don't know if you are familiar with that or not or whether you have the information. Do you files on it here?

TA: I don't know of any file on it, I don't have one here.

JJ: Let me look these over for a minute. You might want to read this. This is by the last saddle horse ranger one of my favorite friends in the Forest Service, Ed Cazier Cazoer, who just recently died, the last saddle horse ranger. This is the story of Bill Hurst's dad. I didn't bring the ones that you had there, you've got Sterling Justice's report.

TA: I've got Basil Crane and . . .

JJ: Here are a few grazing clippings. Here's a little item that would get you into thinking. . .

TA: A. E. Briggs.

JJ: Gene (Alonzo Eugene) Briggs, that's right. Here's a little story on range controversy. Here's the published speech of J. Reuben Clark, it was an hour and fourteen minutes where he really tore the Forest Service to pieces. This has penciled notations showing what he actually said, and this is the way the Utah Cattlemans Association published it, because I do have a copy of his actual transcript. You can take these and read them. There is something about the range

controversy that went on. This is just a series of miscellaneous grazing clippings, I don't know how much you'll get out of it. There's something about the Hobble Creek case. There is nothing else in the world like this, this shows Ernest "Erne" Linford's editorials in the Salt Lake Tribune over the years, so this shows you what his thinking was this has the editorials printed at the pressure was on, to keep people informed. He wrote this special series, some just a day late, some of the problems that were going on from the regional office.

TA: Grantsville--that would have been on the Wasatch, wouldn't it?

JJ: Oh, yes. We had this Grantsville case, I have a book on that, I didn't bring it.

TA: That was the J. Reuben Clark case, the Grantsville one?

JJ: That's right. But this is about various things that went on so you can see what our thinking was there, to keep the people informed on the development of this. Utah senator Arthur Watkins, demanded that there be no reduction in livestock permitted until a committee investigated the need for reductions and go in the field and check the work of the Forest Service. This is the history of the old Manti Forest by Jay Haymond. Chas Peterson's Look to the Mountains, you see is the other. . .the Manti-LaSal. Jay Haymond write this as his doctoral dissertation for his doctorate in history, but I think it was also done by contract with the Forest Service.

JJ: My grandfather was a great old stockman. I mentioned him before, James Larsen

from Mt. Pleasant. He was grazing livestock as early as 1878. The ranges were heavily over-stocked at the time he was grazing. There was no control of grazing on public domain, it was all open grazing. It was a race in the spring to see who could get to the favorite locations for grazing. He said that as soon as stockmen could get their herds on the mountain they would start up the trails to get to their favorite locations. There so many sheep that the herders would have to drive the leaders of the bands following them back to avoid mixing bands of sheep. I think the condition is illustrated by the interview I made with G. Aaron Hansen in 1968. You haven't had time to look at my interview, have you?

TA: I went through the one with Charlie Redd, I've just gone through that pile, Thompson?

JJ: Oh, yes. It was Bill Thompson. Leonard Hay and Thompson of Rock Springs, Wyoming.

TA: And then one over in Nevada.

JJ: This G. Aaron Hansen from Ephraim was a very aggressive livestock owner. He fought the Forest Service during my experience I rode with him on the Fishlake. I was amazed at his reaction in his interview, because when I asked him about range conditions when he was young he said, "My father ran a dipping corral up on the mountain top east of Emphraim. The range was so overgrazed that there was no feed for horses on top of the mountain, they would have to drive the horses down the slopes to find horsefeed for them."

My grandfather was well acquainted with conditions before the forest was established. He was quite a well known man. The Forest Service asked him to assist in setting up the allotments originally, when the Forest Service first came in and started management. Forest Officers did not t manage well at first because the ranges were terribly overstocked and there were no individual allotments but only open range where anyone could graze. As fast as they could do so, rangers divided the range into individual allotments. My grandfather was one of the stockmen that was employed by the Forest Service to establish grazing allotments. I don't think he was paid any salary. He used his knowledgeable experience in helping to lay out the various grazing allotments. He ran sheep and cattle on the north end of the Manti Forest in what is known as Fish Creek and Bear Canyon, or Pondtown on the map; although this was always known locally as Bear Canyon, which was mapped as Pondtown. (Albert Potter of the Washington Office, who rode 3,000 miles on Utah ranges in 1902 mentioned seeing James Larsen's sheep in North Fork of Fish Crrek on August 28, 1902 and noted (page 22 of his diary) that the shheep wer in good condition).a lot of the allotments up there at that time.

The management of the range in early years was questionable because they didn't have a lot of information about it. The Forest Service hired the best qualified cowboy-type individuals to do the job. When I was very young, this was about 1917 to 1920, I worked with my grandfather in the Fish Creek country on the north end of the Manti Forest where he had a dipping corral.

While we were riding for cattle I was quite impressed with a protest against the Forest Service which was related by one of the sheepmen that we met on top of the Skyline Ridge or the Manti Forest. This was directly east of Indianola. We

stopped at this man's sheep range and discussed the situation with him. He was irate because he felt he had been treated unfairly by the Forest Service. He had been taking very good care of his sheep range, had tried to protect it and manage it properly. I think he felt he had improved the range quite a bit. But the ranger had vistied him and had made a decision that he had too much feed on his allotment and it was in so much better shape than some of the other's, that he thought it was reasonable to change the allotment boundary line and reduce the size of this allotment and give some of the range to his neighbor who had neglected taking care of his allotment. This was done in order to make the stocking appear more even on the two allotments. The ranger changed the line to favor the man who over used his allotment. This permittee was really unhappy because of this decision. From the Forest Service standpoint it looked like it evened out the range stocking, but from his standpoint--he felt he was penalized for trying to improve conditions on his allotment.

So there was not a real good basis for managing the range, the way they started out. But dividing the range into individual allotments, worked out well. Later we established the individual allotment responsibility policy with the stockmen and we advertised this very widely, that if they would protect their range and improve it, there would be no change in allotment boundaries. Permittees would be qualified for increases in stocking if such were indicated by the condition of the range--they would be rewarded for improving of their ranges, not penalized as they had been before.

To most people in the early days of the Forest Service, the range resource was the one that was the most important. It was really the Forest Service, especially

in Utah. There was timber cutting, recreation, watershed and wildlife, but grazing was really the number one resource. This was the basis of the economy of the state, except for mining nearly all over at that time.

There was another historic item of interest. The Eccles family that had been and are still great financiers, really started making their money fortune in timber cutting in the Manti Forest area. They were using very destructive methods. I remember my grandfather showing me a timber covered area. He said, "Now look at the side of the hill over there--that's where the Eccles' operated." What they would do is wait until it got really hot in the summer then they would burn the side hill off and kill to burn the timber; then they would go in and high-grade the timber and harvest only the choicest trees. They would select a few of the best trees to take and leave the rest. Burning made it easier for them to get the timber out. This was quite wide-spread. There was a lot of resentment by the local people about the way timber cutting was done by the Eccles people in the early days before the land was put under management.

TA: Where was this one place that your grandfather pointed out to you?

JJ: I wish I could remember exactly where it was. He and I traveled around a lot when we were rounding up his cattle. It was in the vicinity of Scofield. I think it was southwest of Scofield up on top of the mountain. There were quite a few routes that we used to travel there, going back and forth from his sheep operation. We would go by wagon or horseback through Scofield and through the town of Winter Quarters which is gone now. Then we would go up over the mountain and come down into Huntington Canyon then up through Flat Canyon, over Gooseberry and down

Fairview Canyon to come home to Mount Pleasant. I remember going through Scofield in 1922 when the coalminers were on strike ad the Utah State Militia patrolled the town to prevent sabotage.

TA: The question that I have in this context. They way you have described the way these allotments were laid out and the problems they had in administering them, and the activities of this ranger, can you really call that management?

JJ: At first everyone that had grazed was allowed to put their livestock anywhere. Then quite rapidly they started reducing the stocking. They didn't have a real good system of management to start out with, but quit early they started working on the deferred rotation system of grazing for sheep allotments. They could see the advantage of deferring one unit a year and rotating this deferred area to maintain plant vigor. There were reasons why that wasn't the best in the world because there were differences in elevation and they couldn't practically go and graze a high unit that was not really ready for grazing when a lower unit was ready. This contributed to our starting a routing system where we would try to rotate the lower units of an allotment and then end up at the higher areas and rotate the higher units to favor needs of the individual plants.

We wanted to reward the permittees that really took care of their range, so we devised the system of individual allotment responsibility. So men that would understock their range or take good care of it and try to protect it in order to build up the range were rewarded by having the benefit of their own improvement, rather than have somebody else benefit. This policy helped improve the condition of the range.

TA: When was this that you were doing that?

JJ: This was at the time I was on the Caribou Forest, in 1937 to 1943. From then on we tried to work the individual allotment responsibility a lot stronger, we wanted to reward the men that grazed their areas very well. A lot of them did this. I had one particular permittee in mind who had been doing this on his own.

Billy Croft of Iona. Idaho was one of the permittees on the Snake River District that had been voluntarily understocking his allotment. He said, "I don't want to take non-use. I don't want anybody to feel that I am cutting down the revenue of the government. I know that it will be to my advantage to take good care of my range." So he would bring his sheep on late and go off early and really understock it in order to protect the forage that was there, to build up his own good quality range. This was done in quite a few cases and we encouraged this. I had fifty-nine bands of sheep on that ranger district when I went to the Caribou in 1937. It was interesting to see how the philosophy changed when the permittees knew they would be rewarded for protecting their range.

TA: This fellow was actually paying for more stock than he was using?

JJ: Oh, yes.

TA: But, ordinarily under non-use you wouldn't have to do that, would you?

JJ: He didn't take non-use.

TA: But I mean if. . .

JJ: They wouldn't pay under non-use at all, either for numbers or seasons. But Billy paid his full bill and still reduced the amount of use.

TA: You would still have to retain your allotment but you wouldn't have to. . . .it's not like a cutback in the number that you were permitted.

JJ: That's right.

TA: Theoretically you had so many stock that you could graze that you simply chose not to put that many stock on . . .

JJ: That's right. But then we had periods like when I came to the Uinta Forest in 1950, we had these six month cattle grazing seasons up and down the Wasatch Front. They weren't grazing the full season, which was too long to be practical. Each spring the permittees and forest officers would go out and ride the range to see though they had a May 1-October 31 season. It was way too long. So we cut a month off the season on all six month allotments to start out with. There was some protest about that but not too much because actually they couldn't use that much. This arrangement had gone on for a long time. Many of them were irate about any adjustments. They thought that even though they weren't using the full season, they still had an advantage by retaining their longer seasons.

TA: Did you come here to the Uinta from the Caribou?

JJ: No, I went from the Caribou to the Payette Forest as a ranger on the Long Valley Ranger District with headquarters at Cascade, Idaho. Then from Cascade I went into Boise when they combined the old Payette with the Boise and made it the super forest.

TA: Both those forests, the Payette and Boise, were timber forests.

JJ: Yes, although there was still a lot of grazing, especially on the Boise.

TA: Were you involved in quite a few timber sales up there?

JJ: Yes. I was very deeply involved. When I went to Cascade they had the sawmill in town. It was then known as Halleck and Howard--they had this big mill which cut sixty thousand board feet of timber a shift. They ran two shifts a day, so were cutting a hundred and twenty thousand board feet a day. I was not heavily involved, although it was under my partial supervision. We had junior foresters that really did most of the work. I didn't directly supervise the cutting of timber, although the mill was in the town where I was stationed, because they were bringing in logs from other areas. But later when I went to Boise, at the time the super forest was established, they made two forests out of four big forest up there--the old Idaho, the old Weiser were joined to make the present Payette. The old Payette and the old Boise were joined to make the present Boise.

They took me in on the Boise staff in charge of range management. I had that

job for a month. I enjoyed because it was the time they were having all the annual livestock meetings of the associations where they did their planning for the year. Andy Bunch was the assistant supervisor. He and I attended the meetings of these livestock associations so I took opportunity to get acquainted with a lot of these livestock people.

Then some of the men that ran the biggest livestock operations were very much concerned about my being range staffman because Tom VanMeter who was put in as the new Boise supervisor was a very aggressive individual and they sort of resented the rough-shod methods they felt he was using in putting the thing together. I had been working as ranger on the Payette under Supervisor VanMeter and the permittees felt I was VanMeter's representative. Most of the forest people of the old Boise Forest were all being transferred away and VanMeter's men were replacing them. The permittees did not like that.

Louie Dremolski, who was range staffman on the old Boise forest, was on his way to Jackson Hole to the Teton Forest. The grazing permittees protested so vigorously that Chet Olson came from Ogden and saw how things were. They felt that Tom VanMeter's outfit was really taking over and I was one of that bunch. The permittees wanted Louie Dremolski kept in the grazing job, so Chet immediately made the decision to keep Dremolski. He called me up in Cascade and said, "How would you like to have a new job?" I said, "I just got a new range staff job, I like it." He said, "We're going to switch you on the staff from being in charge of grazing to being in charge of timber." I had never been a timber beast, although I had enjoyed the timber work I had done. So I immediately was placed in charge of the timber operation on the Boise Forest, which involved thirty-four sawmills that were cutting

timber from the Boise National Forest at that time.

TA: Did you move from Cascade to Boise then?

JJ: Yes. I was going to move anyway because I had been working in the range staff job, but that switched me from grazing into timber. The timber staff position was an easy job because there was little of the controversy, there had been with the grazing work.

Andy Little of Emmet, Idaho was the biggest sheepman that the nation ever had. After time he bought the VanDeusen outfit, he owned a hundred and twenty thousand ewes. He was dead at the time I came. But his three children each ran fifteen thousand sheep, Drew Little, Dave Little and Jessie Naylor. But Dave didn't stay with it too long. He changed over to cattle. They did a lot of negotiating and reducing. There was a lot of feeling about this so Dremolski the people by being there, he and I were in the staff together. We had been associated for a long time. In 1934 he had been in charge of the grazing survey crew on the Sawtooth Forest, so I had spent the summer of 1934 with him.

The timber work on the Boise was a change from the work I had been doing. I enjoyed the challenge of this new field and the activities connected with it. There was a great variety of sawmill and timber cutting activity with power saws just taking over, timber apraisals to make, cruising to determine volume of timber to advertise on areass which contained timber ready for cutting. The largestt active sale was for fifty-six million feet of timber on the South Fork of the Payette river by Halleck and Howard company.

Logging on this country has a very interesting history. Early in the 1900's on the Cascade district logging was done by building many miles of timber chutes with logs. Sawlogs were slid down chutes by horses pulling the rear log of string or logs that they moved down the cutes from cutting areas to landing on railroad sidings. From there the logs were hauled by rail to the mills where they were cut into lumber. Andy Bunch who was Boise National Forest Assistant Supervisor when I worked on the Boise in 1944 told me of his experiences as a boy when he was employed as greasemonkey, greasing the logging chutes so the sawlogs would slide down the chutes easily.

Many miles of these old logging chutes had not been used for many years were still existing on the Cascade district while I was ranger.

During the depression years in the 1930's the sawmill men were not making much money. The Forest Service acceded to their request to cut a lot of very choice timber. They were permitted to go in high grade this timber or cut only the choicest trees. They went in the south fork of the Payette area and cut out just those trees with butts logs of clear timber that was so highly valuable, and leave the upper limby trunk of the tree on the ground. It was very apparent that they had gone in and just taken the high grade logs with clear lumber in the butt cuts and they hadn't even trimmed out the trees to the tips. It was a terrific waste during this short period in the wasteful timber cutting that was permitted in order to try to keep the sawmill men in business.

The situation being what it was at that time, it would be hard for me to

understand. You could still see the evidences of the old trees that had only had a couple of butt cuts taken out of a big tree and the rest of it left without even trimming it out to the tip.

On this Halleck and Howard sale on the South Fork of the Payette River, the demand for the pine was much greater than for the Douglas Fir. In this sale in 1944 we subsidized the Douglas Fir by selling it to the Halleck and Howard Company for fifty cents a thousand board feet on the stump. I don't remember the price for the Ponderosa Pine, but in order to log the Douglas fir while the sale was active we sold dirt cheap.

TA: They were logging both Ponderosa and Douglas Fir and they gave them the Douglas Fir?

JJ: Yes. To get it taken out while the logging operation was active. Some of these ridges on this sale had as many as twelve logging roads zigzagging back and forth to gain access to timber high on the slope.

TA: Were they using jammer logging, then?

JJ: Yes.

TA: Not tractor skidding, then?

JJ: They were skidding and loading with jammers. They could throw the skidding cables out and reach far enough to bring the logs in from both above and below the

roads, and that's the reason they had so many roads on one ridge. That delicate granitic soil just couldn't stand that kind of treatment so many roads. I was bothered with it at the time, but that practice was existing when I took the job. I didn't have the job very long, only for a year. That was in 1944, until May of 1945 when I transferred to Richfield.

We had a meeting in Boise early in 1945 and Charlies Demoisy, who was the assistant in the grazing branch of the regional office attended. He said, "I'm shocked to see a grazing man that was raised in range management and has been in range all the time working here in timber as bad as we need good range men working here in the timbers, when we've got such a wealth of timber men all over the country." It was a short time after that that I was transferred to Richfield as assistant supervisor of the Fishlake National Forest.

TA: How long were you there at Richfield?

JJ: I was there from 1945 until 1950. Then I was transferred to Provo as supervisor of the Uinta National Forest.

TA: What kinds of things did you do at Richfield while you were assistant supervisor to try to improve the range down there on the Fishlake?

JJ: We had a lot of good experiences down there and we had some bad ones I had one ranger that was tough to deal with. He was trying to undercut the Forest. We were there when the range allotment analysis was started. We tried to help the rangers get this underway to go out and get their ranges classified and put under different

class of range suitability so we could work with the permittees to obtain proper stocking. We encouraged the rangers to work with the stockmen and we had some of pretty tough situations in over use of ranges. But we had some good range and good permittees to work with Blaine Betenson was supervisor at the time. He had kind of a tough reputation. It was justified, too, because he could see there were some bad over-stocked areas and some trespass situations that needed correction. He handled them pretty roughly. But made some very worthwhile adjustments in stocking. At that time there was not too much opposition to the Forest Service because grazing permittees felt that they couldn't protest successfully against the Forest Service decisions. There were some people that were running more cattle on the forest than they were permitted.

In the past the forest officers had used several methods to determine the number of cattle a permittee ran on the forest. Counts were made of livestock in the winter at the feedlots with the theory that the permitted number would be grazed and the surplus pastured at home where the ranger could count them during the summer to determine if enough cattle were kept at home. Feedlot counts were generally unsatisfactory as dishonest permitees could graze more than their permitted number of cattle with little chance of detection. If the ranger did count the cattle on a mans ranch in the summer and find the numbers were short, there were many ways the owner could explain the shortage. But rangers never had time or inclunation to count cattle on ranches during the summer.

In many places permitted cattle were counted by the ranger at the forest boundary or some other convenient location as they were driven to their allotments. This was usually unsatisfactory as surplus cattle could be placed on the forest

surreptitiously by unscrupulous permittees.

Bushing was used to a limited extent. The ranger would count in the feed lot the number of permitted cattle that would be grazed. Then all the surplus cattle were bushed by having the hair on their tails cut off square. Bushed cattled could be easily spotted on the forest as trespassing animals. The bushed cattle were to be kept home, but there were several ways to trespass when bushing was used.

Dye branding was used in some areas to designate permitted cattle. Pressure guns were used to squirt dye branding fluid on permitted cattle in a streak which covered the animal from ears to tail. This was an easy method to use and was generally satisfactory on all cattle except black colored ones as the black streak of dyed hair had not shown up well on them. The dyed hair faded late in the season, however.

The best way to control trespass by cattle is to tag permitted cattle each year with numbered tags so they can be identified on the range.

Tagging is a mean, dirty job which must be done by a foresttt officer. Most permittees have good chutes where cattle can be caught and tagged readily. But others have no chutes, so cattle must be jamed in a pen and roped or driven to a neighbor's chute for tagging.

Many permittees resent tagging. They calim jamming cows to tag them causes abortion. So they make it as tough as possible for the ranger to do the job.

Each year different shaped tags were used so old tags could not identify a permitted cow. Round, square, triangular or clover leaf shapes can easily be checked on the range. Usually tags were placed in the left ear one year and in the right ear the following year so a cow with a year old tag could be spotted readily as being in trespass on one Idaho Forest a ranger would give tags to the permittees and let them tag their own cattle. The ranger would say, "Well, you have fifty-one head of cattle. Here are the tags. You can put them in." The when the ranger found an untagged cow in the forest he would report it to the permittee, who replied, "Oh, here I have got the tag for that cow. She got on without putting the tag in, but here is the tag for her. She is still permitted so I'll put it in now." So thhhey used subterfuge to graze more than they were permitted.

The foresst officers did all the tagging on the Fishlake and most other Forests, we tagged about fourteen thousand permitted cattle on the Fishlake each year.

We had one permittee named Wilford Watts from Kanosh who had a section of ground inside the Forest that he stocked with cattle. It was reported that he would rope somebody's old permitted cow, take the tag out of her ear, catch one of his steers and put the tag in the steer's ear then turn him out on the forest range. We knew about this, so when Carl Haycock, the ranger at Kanosh, tagged Wilford's cattle next spring, he saved surreptitiously all the tags that he took out of Wilford Watts' cattle's ears. We had the serial numbers, of all the tags. In checking these tags that he took out of Watts' cows, he found twenty-two tags that forest officers had tagged other people's stock with first, that had been stolen by Wilford Watts.

We were a little upset with the regional office because they didn't think that identification of the stolen tags was sufficient evidence to prosecute a trespass case. We thought it was the best evidence in the world.

TA: If you had record of those numbers, why. . .

JJ: That's right, but RO said, "No, we didn't catch those cows on the forest. We didn't see them trespassing on the forest, but we just waited until clear to next spring when we retagged and took those tags out, so we couldn't prove that Watts stolen tagged cattle were on the forest, that it was a trespass case." We really embarrassed Wilford because we had several meetings with the Kanosh permittees about this and it was well known what had been done. But we were really frustrated because we had this evidence that looked really good to us but the law officers said, "Sorry, it isn't a trespass case because we didn't catch the animals on the forest." It might have been that cattle had been tagged and left home or something else had happened so it wasn't sufficient evidence for a trespass case.

TA: What about theft? Those tags belonged to somebody else's cows.

JJ: That's true, they were really government property the thing of it is, the tagging system generally worked out well. It cut out an awful lot of cattle trespass and was the best method of trespass control we knew of but it is not infallible.

There's another angle that I recall on this. Have you had any information

about Allen Folster?

TA: No.

JJ: Allen Folster died this last summer and they asked me to come to Salina and speak at his funeral. He was a wonderful man. He was supervisor at Panguitch on the old Powell when I had my first ranger district at Widtsoe.He was raised in Ephraim and he was a practical man. He was been supervisor of the old LaSal Forest. He did the best job of trying to orient me to my responsibilities when I started as ranger, although this was my seventh year working for the Forest Service. He rode with me, counselled me, he gave me his philosophy and he told me of his experiences.

Allen Folster told me he was ranger on the Ferron district of the Manti Forest. When he went to Ferron, it was customary for most permittees to winter their cattle on the Castle Valley country east of the forest. The system used was to count by prearrangement bunches of cattle that were driven from the winter range onto the summer allotment of th forest. But permittees kept track of the ranger's whereabouts so they could sneak additional bunches of cattle onto the forest when the ranger was not likely to find them. This was common knowledge and had been going on for a long time.

So Allen decided to tag the permitted cattle despite the protests of the owners. When he started the tagging program, it was rumored that the permittees had to sell about as many cattle as they were permitted. This indicated that they had been grazing about twice as many cattle on the forest as had been permitted.

It is an olld fact that in many of the small rural communities in Utah, two items were accepted as not being against the Word of Wisdom, even though most of the residents were full tithpayers. It was all right to trespass by grazing more than the permitted number of stock on the forest, and deer could be poached anytime of year.

Getting cattle properly distributed over the range was accomplished by riding to herd them to where they were needed, building drift fences to confine them to the undergrazed areas, constructing ponds and troughs to furnish water in dry areas, and distributing salt to attract cattle to underutilized areas. Each grazing allotment had a salting plan which showed locations of salt grounds in areas where more grazing was needed. This helped to gain better distribution of cattle.

Water developments have made it possible for cattle and sheep to utilize range areas that could not otherwise be grazed. Springs have been developed and water piped into troughs for livestock use. Hundreds of dams have been built to make ponds to store water to make it readily available. On the Fishlake, bentonite from a clay mine at Redmond was used to seal many ponds that would not hold water. This fine clay bentonite had been used in pioneer times to make clay roofs on log cabins, and was locally known by the nickname "Redmond Shingles." In some places water-collecting plastic aprons have been used to collect and impound precipitation for use by livestock.

Chaining of pinon-juniper pygmy forests has opened up areas that have provided substantial amounts of forage for livestock. Seeding has been done on most of these areas, but stands of residual forage plants have resulted from chaining operations.

Seeding of good range plants has materially increased forage production on may areas throughout the region. The largest seeded area is on the Dixie Forestt in the John's Valley area near Widtsoe, where Forest Supervisor Albert Albertson was able to direct plowing and seeding of thousands of acres. Also many large areas of depleted ranged has been seeded by airplane with fine success.

We had a lot of spraying with herbicide to control sagebrush and other undesirable plants so good forage species could be seeded or native plants be increased. Much of this has been done by spraying by tractors equipped with spraying booms, but much more spraying was by airplane and helicopter.

The last job I had was branch chief in charge of coperative relations and range improvements in the division of Range Management. I had generally good relations with most of the stockmen and grazing associations. I attended the annual meetings of the livestock associations at the forest, state, national levels. State association meetings are held in each of the four states of the region. I attended the National meetings of the American National Cattlemen at Salt Lake City, Oklahoma City, Phoenix and Tampa, Florida. Also many meetings of the National Woolgrowers Association. I also participated in many field trips with permittees and local, forest wide and state livestock associations.

TA: This was when you were on the regional office?

JJ: That's right.

Have you had occasion to look at any of the I gave you?

TA: I haven't been able to go through any of that stuff. I am going to take it back and go through it.

JJ: There is a lot of very good information in Char. . .

TA: Yes. I have gone through this and taken careful notes on that.

JJ: I gave you Ed Kizare's, "The Last Saddle Horse Ranger."

TA: Yes.

JJ: After he retired he wrote a weekly historic feature article for the newspaper in Afton, Wyoming. This does not have as many Forest Service stories as his first book "The Last Saddle Horse Ranger," but there is one interesting incident:

When the old Yellowstone Timberland Reserve in Jackson, Wyoming was broken up in 1902, one of the three new forest headquarters was located at Afton, Wyoming. The officers divided up the file material records among the new forests. The records to go to Afton could be taken by road clear around by Kemmerer, but it was decided to send the records to Afton down the Snake River trail from Jackson by Ranger Ernie Edgarton's pack horse. Ernice packed two mules and a mare, so he decided to load the two boxes which contained the records on the mare because she was more reliable than the mules. Ernie started the journey.

Part way down the canyon was a very rough, steep area, so Ernie cut the mare loose so she would not get in trouble if a mule slipped. The trail was very slick as it had been raining.

When the mare was on the steep trail, a rock rolled down the mountain and scared her so she bumped a mule, lost her balance, fell, and rolled down the slope into Snake River. She went under the water, surface once, and the mare and the records were never seen again.

TA: The Yellowstone Timbe Reserve.

JJ: That's right.

He has several good stories in here his best philosophy is in the Saddle Horse Ranger book, which tells the story of his life in the Forest Service.

TA: I read an oral history interview that Barney Standing had with him--that was in that pile of oral history stories I've been going through.

Why don't you tell me about your experiences on the Uintah, when you were supervisor there.

JJ: We had four ranger districts when I was made supervisor of the Uinta in 1950. There were several problems that were most interesting. The first one was the way the forest was laid out. Timpanogos was on the Pleasant Grove district of the Wasatch right in my backyard--one of the bestt known mountains in Utah. One

district was at Duchesne, one at Spanish Fork, and two at Heber. This went against my grain because my wife and her family had been so closely tied up with the Timpanogos area on the Wasatch Forest. I was concerned about this because it was a hundred miles out to Duchesne for me to go and still right in my backyard, there was Timpanogos. My family still had connections with BYU. My wife Margaret's father John C. Swensen was still teaching, that is, they made him emeritus and still kept him teaching a two hour class during the last part of his 52 year teaching experience at BYU.

The old cabins where they used to stay in during Alpine Summer school sessions at Aspen Grove were still available. BYU would let us take a key, so we would use these cabins on weekends. We would go up and camp there on the Wasatch Forest. Margaret would go with her three younger brothers and spend the school session there with her father.

TA: Who was her father?

JJ: Her father was John C. Swensen. B.Y.U. has the John C. Swensen lecture hall in the B.Y.U. Home Economics Building, (Family Living Center). He was really a great individual.

I started a campaign to try to get the Timpanogos area transferred to the Uinta, where it belonged. This was not very popular in some places, but in other places it was. We worked it out, eventually I convinced the regional office that this should be done. We had a lot of negotiations trying to get it done.

We eliminated one ranger district from the Wasatch forest and readjusted the Ashley, Unita and the Wasatch Forests. We shifted the ranger districts so that the Pleasant Grove District was from the Wasatch and added to the Uinta. This made it a much better unit to handle, than for the man from Provo, to go clear out to Duchesne. It worked out well. The Duschesne district went to the Ashley

The Timpanogos area was very important to the people of Utah Valley, in fact the whole state. The annual Timpanogos Hike was held each year with upwards of 1500 people hiking to the top of the mountain after the traditional program was held the evening before t the amphitheatre at Aspen Grove. The Prove Chamber of Commerce presented each person that climbed to the top with a commemorative timp badge. Utah County, Brigham Young University, The Boy Scouts and the Forest Service cooperated in conducting this annual hike.

A shelter was needed at Emerald Lake, and I was able to purchase a quonset type hut to be erected there. I did not get it built, but when it was dedicated after I had moved to Ogden, I was asked to give the dedicatory address. And I was awarded an honorary Timp Stick for the part I had taken in support of the timp hike.

Incidentally, I witnesses the killing of an 18-year old girl, B.Y.U. student on one of the timp hikes. She was hit in the head by a large rolling rock on the slope above Emerald Lake. There were no people on the slope when the rock rolled from--I was in position to see the whole slope clearly at the time.

The Uinta had a fine land acquisition program going about 1940. Much of the land on the face of the mountain east of Provo was owned by the Jesse Knight family.

Eugene Allen, Knight's son-in-law was manager of the knight interests. The Unita was able to buy much of this land for prices as low as $2,500 per acre. This was a major accomplishment.

I recall seeing sheep grazing on the lower slope of the mountains above Provo during the 1922-23 school year. Sheep were lambed on the foothils near the area where homes now stand.

The BYU decided to build a road up to the "Y" on the mountain while I was at Provo, across Unita Forest land. We stopped the construction and I called on President Ernest L. Wilkinson to find out about it. He informed me thhattt he intended to get permission from higher authority to gain access to the "Y", which was on Unita Forest land. Later a land exchange was made by which the B.Y.U. obtained title to this land.

TA: It was all watershed for that area. I didn't realize that the Forest Service had turned that. . .how much of that area where the Y is belongs to BYU?

JJ: I can't tell you how much, but you can easily see on the Unita land status record the Forest Service made a land exchange with the B.Y.U. that I don't I think I would have ever approved because I still thought the people were entitled to the protection of the forest there, despite the fact that the "Y" was on the land. But I am not familiar with details of the transaction so should not comment.

TA: They should have gotten a special use permit or something shouldn't they?

JJ: That's correct. We actually went up there--on Y Day we took our forest officers up and laid out contours and directed "Y" day workers in digging lot of quite shallow contour trenches there one year in order to protect the land from erosion. It was being pretty badly beat out.

After I left the Unita Clarence Thornock decided it was satisfactory to transfer the land to the Y, so I was told B.Y.U. acquired some land somewhere else on the forest and they exchanged it for the B.Y.U. land. This is all hearsay. I have no factual information.

The thing that I was most concerned about was grazing. That is where I had always worked. We had a hundred and twelve grazing allotments on the Uinta when I got there, and I with the rangers personally rode overall hundred and twelve of them. I asked permittees to ride with us.

We had only three field going men in the Uinta Forest Provo Office at that time. Argyle "Al" Taylor was assistant supervisor, Cecil Engelman road foreman, and myself. We didn't have the staff and controls they have now--we didn't have the paperwork nor the environmental impact statements that have to be done. When there was a job to do, we went out, hired the men and got the work done. We had a road crew that maintained the roads all over the forest.

It was amazing to me the amount of time we spent making grazing adjustments. We would meet with the permitees and the associations in many meetings and make range inspections with them. We got some very strong protests from some of them. The one in Springville was the Hobble Creek case. I attended this after moving to

Ogden; but it was started long before I left Provo. The Hobble Creek permittees maintained that we had no legal right to make any stocking reductions on the Hobble Creek allotment. Clarence Thornock was pretty tough on this case.

We made a lot of adjustments while I was at Prove. There was one project that I don't know how much we ought to talk about because it was a little out of the ordinary. On the Heber District there was alot of common use range and we considered the idea that if sheep permittees could relieve the range overstocking by getting rid of the cattle, the sheep men could have the advantage of the loss of the cattle. We gave them that assurance. The sheepmen assessed themselves a lot of money and they purchased the cattle and got rid of the cattle permittees in order to improve their sheep-grazing situation by gaining the forage for sheep. This was approved by Merle Varner of the R.O. It solved a bad stocking situation. It helped put us on a lot better ground as far as good stocking goes, but the legality of it was questioned by some people. They said we shouldn't have done that because it did cost a lot of money. The sheepmen under direction of Don Clyde assessed themselves pretty heavily to buy out the cattle and retire the permits.

Don Clyde was an aggressive man. He was president of the Utah Wool Growers Association. He knew good range by grazing it much less than he was permitted and he took care of his private and forest range very well. He was very agreeable to buying out the cattle to gain more forage for sheep.

We had Levi Montgomery in Heber, who was president of the Utah Cattlemen's Association at that time. Levi was a critical, uncooperative man. To illustrate

how he felt, when I was on the Fishlake, he came to Richfield to attend a meeting of permittees and forest officers there. He got up in this meeting and said, "As I drove down through this state today, I went through the Sanpete County towns. They've got the dirtiest bunch of corrals you could imagine anyplace. They are filthy--they don't take care of anything. You can see that they let things go and they don't do what they ought to do. They are just careless small-time operators. As I came down here today I thought now here we've got Ranger Ivan Christensen who was raised in Sanpete, we've got Ranger Milo Dyches who was raised in Sanpete, we've got a ranger in Nephi that was raised in Sanpete. You get those Sanpete people in the Forest Service--no wonder you haven't got any decent thinking in the Forest Service, they are still thinking like those dirty corrals where they were raised."

I think we did a very good job while I was on the Uinta of improving our stocking situation. This Heber deal was probably the most critical area. These sheep permittees voluntarily dug up a lot of money to buy the cattle out- -to buy the permits, is what it amounted to. You can't say it that way, because we recognize that there is no value to a permit, but there is no question about the bankers loaning money on permits as collateral. It had a monetary value despite the fact that we always insisted there was no monetary value.

TA: It has the value in the transfer of livestock operation, if you own a ranch and have permits for it, you can get a premium. . .

JJ: Yes, that's right. But we never could recognize that legally.

I enjoyed working with the stockmen, I did have a lot of friends with the

stockmen and I do have yet in many places. On the other hand I've got some that think that I've not been as loyal to the livestock industry as I should have been. (laughter)

We had one appeal case by Hyrum Winterton of Kamas and Salt Lake City. He tried to establish a common use "drift right" for his cattle on sheep range on Doe Knoll area near Strawberry Reservoir on the Heber district. He wrote a detailed report of his long time cattle use on this sheep range, and incidentally criticized me as being wholly untruthful in very strong language.

We had a hearing in Provo under direction of Merle Varner, Assistant Regional Forester in charge of Range Management. We had the grazing plans for the allotments concerned for many years. None of these gave evidence of a cattle drift on the sheep range, so we won the case, but it generated a lot of interest.

The reductions in cattle grazing seasons along the Wasatch front were substantial. The cooperation of some cattle associations in improving conditions on their allotments was remarkable. The Santaquin Association held all their cattle off the range for three years while the aerial seeding we did by plane became established.

We spent untold hours in informal discussions, meetings, and range inspections with permittees in promoting better management and range improvement.

Tom Mathews of the Regional Office once made an office inspection of the Unita, during which he analysed my diary, then he pointed out that my diary showed I had

worked in one year more than one and half years in hours.

We had a strong public relations program on the Unita. We conducted effective show-me trips to show results of our revegetation work, recreation improvements, watershed and range improvements. Two of the trees I planted for the state presidents of the Utah Federation of Women's Clubs are still growing--one on B.Y.U. campus, one in Springville.

TA: I enjoyed reading that interview that you did with Charlie Redd.

JJ: I had a conversation with one of the good stockmen one time, he said, "We thought you were tough. You came down there and we did a lot of things, with pretty good feeling." Then he said, "My gosh, what we've got to deal with now with Clarence Thornock, it's a different deal entirely. He is tougher than you."

I had the best help in the world in Argyle Taylor. He was raised in Sanpete also, was a high producer. He could do the paper work well that I was not so good at. I would go out and meet the people and do the contacts and he would stay home and do the paper work.

Another irksome problem was the matter of the policy on grazing transfers, where we would take a standard ten percent reduction in a man's permit if he transferred both the commensurate property and the livestock, or twenty percent if the permits was transferred on the basis of only the property or the livestock. There were some good things and some bad things about that. One bad thing about it was that everyone would try to avoid making transfers in order to not getting the

reduction that was inherent in the transfers. We had about a hundred and twenty-five permits on the Uinta Forest, that were in "estate" status. Someones Grandpa's estate, had a permit but grandpa had long since died. Instead of transferring the property to his sons or somebody else, it was kept in grandpa's name so the permit would not be cut. There was some knowledge of the Forest Officers where this was done, too, because actually grandpa didn't own anything after he died. From then on--somebody else owned it and they should have had the permit. So we had the responsibility of straightening out all these estate permits. We had to get the facts of ownership, and get the permits transferred to where the people that had the permits were the people that owned the stock. Al Taylor got most of these corrected. Some reductions were made where no stock or land existed.

TA: I remember that there was a congressional investigation having to do with the question of grazing administration, and that the Forest Service adopted a policy that, it was about the time of the passage of the Granger-Thye Act, that set as a general policy that that wouldn't be done any more. That is, an immediate reduction at the time of transfer. Was that the case, generally, or after that time did you generally not do that or was that still continued?

JJ: We made transfer reductions in grazing permits far beyond what we should have done, on the Uinta. We still continued to do that because reductions were needed. But we finally got stymied--we got stopped by an appeal. We had a case on the Heber District that was appealed, and finally we were told "you can not take reductions, on transfers" so we didn't take any more transfer reductions.

TA: Then you went to the regional office as staff in charge of grazing?

JJ: That's right. Floyd Iverson was in charge of the division of Range Management. I was his assistant.

TA: Then you took his position when he became regional forester?

JJ: No, when he became regional forester, I was transferred to the division of Information and Education in charge of I & E. I was never in charge of grazing. I had the I & E job for a couple of years and then I transferred back to Range Management the I & E job in grazing, as branch chief in charge of copperative relations and range improvements.

TA: You were on the Uinta until 1956. Then how long were you in the regional office?

JJ: The last twelve years, until the end of 1968.

TA: During that period there was considerable controversy over reductions.

JJ: We had many appeals, we had the reduction program that was going on.

TA: Can you give me some examples of some of those cases.

JJ: I think the Hobble Creek case was probably the strongest case we ever had,

where they had the court-like hearing on the Uinta, actually it was held in Carpenter's Hall in Orem. The appeal was handled--by Clair Aldrich from Provo who was the attorney for the stockmen. Law Officer Dean Gardner conducted the hearing. Clair regretted that the situation was like it was. He said, If he could just have a court of law he could win his case. He was a very thorough attorney. First he rode the range to get the feeling of these Hobble Creek Cattlement. He made some very strong points in the hearing. I admired the way he did his work. But the Hobble Creek permitees maintained that they had a prior right here and the Forest Service could not make the reductions in stocking under law that we were doing. I wouldn't try to brief that case. You ought to talk to Dean Gardner about that--Clarence Thornock. You know him don't you?

TA: No. But I'll, I have had some correspondence with him but I really don't know him.

JJ: . He lives in Provo, and he's is right there handy where you can discuss it with him. But he, started making a reduction. We did reduce some season on on the Hobble Creek allotment at Springville. I am sure Clarence he can give you a much better resume of the case than I could. That was one of the strongest appeals that we ever had.

Of course the Grantsville case was very interesting too in working with the President J. Reuben Clark who was thhe most prominent permittee.

TA: Do you want to tell me about that one?

JJ: I believe I did mention that J. Reuben Clark had never been said, "No" to in his life. He was told that we planned to make a reduction because the Grantsville watershed was being damaged by overgrazing. He said he would have none of that. He had such a positive approach to it. He was an interesting old character. He was a great churchman. He was a real politician, but he didn't understand range. He had a brother that ran his outfit. They had even reseeded their own range, but instead of taking care of it after seeding they beat it to death so that they might just as well had not seeded, as they killed out all the seeded grass. But he thought he had the edge on the Forest Service because he dominated Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson. He reportedly made a trip to Washington to enlist Benson's support. We don't know exactly what he said, but he went back there with the avowed purpose of getting the Forest Service to withdraw the proposed cut on his cattle as he wasn't going to take any reduction on his range. But I think that Ezra Taft stuck to his guns really well in this case. The writeup of Clark's talk at the Utah Cattlemen's Annual Meeting that I'm sure we'll fill you in on. Bill Hurst and I, off the cuff, had three two hour sessions with President Clark to try to explain Forest Service policy to him before the cattleman's meeting that he was going to talk at was held. He wouldn't talk to us in his office in the Church Office Building. We had to go to his home. He met us and he rode in his own little elevator that took us up into his extensive and beautiful library where he had all the souvenirs of his political life.

TA: They have reconstructed that library over there in the law school there at BYU.

JJ: Oh have they?

TA: Yes.

JJ: I missed that. But I remember the mementoes he had. He had a model of a bow that he got someplace, and a small statue of a bull, and many other things that he acquired in his political career. He was adamant about this reduction. He had a lot of misconceptions about how Forest Service was being handled. He expressed himself in those views in the talk he gave at the Utah Cattleman's Association which I gave you a copy of. Quite a few of the hierarchy of the Church were in attendance of that meeting. The stockmen were well pleased to have him get up and blast the Forest Service the way he did. But it didn't do him any good. We still made the reduction that had to be made. I think that the information you have will show more than I have just highlighted. I sat in on a couple of the meetings we had with the Grantsville permittees to try to explain this to them. They all depended on J. Reuben Clark to carry the ball for them. He wasn't able to score the points that he wanted to.

TA: Were there any other important reductions that were made during that period in other parts of the region besides here in Utah?

JJ: There were quite a few appealed cases. Right now none of them are apparent to me. We had some fine examples of good cooperation with permittees. There was one in Nevada, the 76 association that was such a different sort of deal because those men had cooperated whole heartedly with the Forest Service in trying to build up their range. They worked very hard to get the cooperation of the Forest Service and work out this action for their benefit.

TA: Where was that?

JJ: On the Humboldt National Forest.

TA: Was it up in the Mountain City district?

JJ: . It was in the Elko district. But I shouldn't have even mentioned that because it wasn't an appeal, but a fine example of constructive cooperation.

TA: The ones you remember though most were the Grantsville and Hobble Creek ones.

JJ: Yes, that's right. We had an aggressive program of range improvement that was being carried on at that time. We were also promoting the rest rotation system. Gus Hormay was really the prime author of the rest rotatioon system. We spent some time with him. The classic example that he had of rest rotation in Northern California. But we worked with our grazing staff and the fieldmen in trying to establish his system and make the adjustments that were necessary to protect the range.

There is an outstanding example of what the Forest Service did on the Davis County watershed. I'm sure you have got information on the pioneering watershed work that was done there.

TA: I interviewed Buss Croft (A. Russell Croft) the other night, and I have his book that he did on the Davis County watershed.

JJ: Well that's good. My father took our family to Yellowstone in 1923, just after the 1923 flood. I well remember the appearance of the flood area in Davis County as we went through. This is a wonderful example of watershed restoration in the Davis County watershed. Buss is very innovative and articulate. In fact we on the Uinta Forest used Buss when we got the first watershed pilot program in the Forest Service that started here I think it was in 1952. We had a small watershed pilot project one of the two that was started in region in Santiquin Creek. I don't know if you have heard anything about this pilot watershed.

TA: No I don't know anything about that.

JJ: Chet Olsen got this approved. This was a pilot program for watershed improvement which was to come from special money for rehabilitation of damaged areas. We got Buss Croft to help us, but I got him to come to Santaquin Canyon and give us instruction on how we were to build the contour trenches that was the prime job in this pilot program. Hal Mickelson was the ranger and I was the supervisor. Buss Croft, went with us on the Santaquin watershed. He and showed us how the work was to be done. We appreciated the help he gave us.

I had previous experience with Buss Croft in the Spring of 1936 when I started building erosion control structures with relief men at Pine Lake on the Widstoe ranger district. We had damage in the Pine Lake area right south of Widstoe. Buss came down when we had all the relief men that were working on the Powells forest. We were building check dams in the Clay Creek area. Buss stayed with us there and showed us how to get the job done. Buss was a very helpful fellow out in the field. He was an interesting character. In fact I have his life history here if you want

to read that sometime.

TA: I was really sorry when I interviewed that I hadn't gotten to him about two years earlier. The reason is he is very forgetful now.

JJ: Oh is that right? I didn't realize that.

TA: I had a very difficult time interviewing him. He would tend to repeat himself.

JJ: Well I do myself too.

TA: No, I know, but it is a different kind of thing. I would ask him a question, and he would not be able to answer. It was really disappointing.

JJ: He has been so aggressive.

TA: He felt really chagrined by the whole thing because, some people when that happens they don't realize it has. But with him he knows it. It is hard on him.

JJ: He has been such a good producer. He has gotten so many things done so well. He has so much publication behind him. I hadn't realized that even though I talked with him at the recent Forest Service old-timer's club luncheon. The first Tuesday of every month we meet down at Andy's Smorgasboard and have luncheon together. We get, the old-timer's organization, to discuss what is going on. Everybody tells about the trips they have taken and things they are doing and the activities we have. Buss usually shows up at these luncheons.

TA: Well you might not notice it unless you try to go into something in depth.

JJ: I see that. I am sorry to hear that because Buss has been a really good thinker, writer and producer.

Well I want to be as helpful as I can with you. I don't know just how to do it.

TA: You have given me a lot of information.

JJ: There are a lot of things I'm not too sharp on though. You know I don't remember all the details of what went on in these cases. We had appeals cases that we were carrying on, but none of them are sharp in my memory now.

TA: Well I am going to meet on Friday with the Regional Attorney. He may be able to help me somemore. What is his name?

JJ: Dean Gardner.

TA: Yes, Dean Gardner.

JJ: Well Dean is the law officer and legal expert. He and I were very close. In fact when I was stake Sunday School superintendent of Dean was my assistant. So we were together in that field. We worked all of us in the grazing field. We had an unusual case on the Uinta when I was there. When we were spraying range with

herbicide for sagebrush control, one of the permittees got his sheep where they weren't supposed to be in the path of the spray area. The sheep got sprayed. The owner was going to sue the government. He thought the sheep would all abort and be damaged to have this herbicide spray on them. So Dean came down and helped us get that settled.

TA: Did he take it to court?

JJ: No, it didn't do any damage there.

TA: Just killed the fungus on the sheep. (laughter)

JJ: Of course that is why we used to dip the sheep, to get rid of the ticks as well as the scabies that we dipped for every day.

I thoroughly enjoyed my career. I have had a lot of experiences with many fine people in the Service and among the users. Since I have recently decided that I have saved a lot of the information that people I have worked with. So now I have been trying to recall the names of all the people I have ever met. I have kept so many names. So now as of last night I have over sixteen thousand eight hundred names on my list of people that I have come in contact with. Many of these are in the Forest Service. I have enjoyed being with them, and it has been a lot of fun.

TA: Have you done any more interviews with retirees or ranchers or anything since those.

JJ: I did make those ten in 1968. I think you have coppies of all those.

TA: Yes. What I have been doing, I have beend doing these interviews with the staff people and then I go back and spend my in between time going through all those interviews. That is what I have been doing these two weeks.

JJ: Barney Standing was a fine interviewer and a great fellow. He certainly did a lot of fine things.

TA: Well I guess of all the people there I knew him better than anybody because his son Bob and I were very close friends.

JJ: Is that right?

TA: Yes. Well Jim, thank you very much.

JJ: There are a lot of things I would like to help you on if I knew just how to do it. I recommend the history of the Manti forest that I loaned you which was written by Jay Haymond.

TA: Jay Haymond.

JJ: Jay got a lot of information that I think can apply to the situation at that time. The Forest wasn't very well pleased with his history for some reason, but I was. I thought he did a good job. Chas Peterson did a great job getting that information put together for the History of the LaSal Forest. I haave gloried in my

Forest Service experience in my lifetime. It was really enjoyable and rewarding. I got paid for working in delightful places with fine people.

Today I gave a talk on unusual Utah names to a group of ladies. They were delighted and I was also to see their reaction. Some group respond a lot better than others. But with a lot of odd and interesting names that I have collected, the names on the land and the names of people, I give humorous talks on. I have a printout of the names of the 20,225 features names on all the geographic map of Utah. Some of them are odd like Lousy Jim Canyon on the Fishlake, Musentuchit Flat, Eight Molly's nipples.

TA: Did you do that a lot while your were in the Service, before you retired?

JJ: No. I was collecting odd names then. I have been collecting them for almost fifty years. I have more than seven thousand names in one hundred and eighteen categories. It helps to remember the names by name association. This iiis my sixteenth year of retirement, and I gave my first talk on this eleven years ago. Then there was quite a period where I didn't do much. But this month I am giving four talks. I am goiing to talk to the Sons of the American Revolution next Monday night. So I have all my patriotic names out.

TA: Patriotic names?

JJ: It is interesting to see what you can get. Down in Wales Utah the Thomas family had a boy born on the day Utah statehood was established on January 4, 1896. So they names him Statehood Thomas. We had the well-known attorney in Salt Lake who

was born on the Fourth of July, 1876. Nephi United States Centennial Jensen was his name. He gloried in it. He was a legislator and a prominent attorney in Salt Lake. He always liked his Nephi U.S. Centennial Jensen name. I met USA Dunkley recently. In the Ogden Temple now we have Ulysses S. Grant as one of the workers. Jefferson Hunt was delivering a patriotic oration in Ogden on July 24, 1860 while his wife was delivering a baby boy in Huntsville. He name the boy Liberty Independence Hunt to honor him for being born on the holiday.